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FACSIMILE MESSAGE

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No of pages:	6+9

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Dear Kiyoko,

Thank you for re-transmitting the fax.

We strongly support your action to deliver a protest to the Australian Embassy. We will distribute your letter to the media here. If you could actually organise a **demonstration** in front of the Australian Embassy that would probably get significant media attraction here and in Portugal. On this issue I think that action outside Australia is really more effective than action inside Australia.

Thank you also for the Asahi Journal article. We will find a Japanese friend to translate it for us!

With respect to your questions:

1. I am sending you a copy of the Timor Gap treaty.

2. The Australian press has reported on the signing of the treaty and is in general completely unconcerned about the East Timorese. The treaty is seen a a breakthrough for Australian-Indonesian friendship. (One exception is a Canberra Times editorial which mentions that there are some objections but says that nevertheless the Australian government has done the right thing). The Portuguese protest has been reported but does not seem to be taken seriously. Senator Evans is quoted as saying something like "no problem, whatever the Portuguese do we will handle easily". I am also sending you some press clippings.

→ 3, I don't think that Tony Lamb has taken any action on the treaty. I talked to him yesterday and asked how members of PET would vote when the treaty will be ratified next year. He said that voting will probably be on party lines with **both** the Labor Party and the Liberal Party voting **for** the treaty. I believe that his position in the Labor Party is a very difficult one!

4. We have been writing letters to the newspapers (which rarely publish anything about East Timor), planning an advertising campaign with prominent persons and a Union meeting in January where we hope to get union support against mining in East Timor.

I hope that this information is helpful for further action and for your article.

Your sincerely Michael